



RTCA in Nebraska

The Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) program is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. The National Park Service (NPS) staff provide technical assistance to community groups, city, county, tribal governments, and non-profit organizations working to enhance close-to-home outdoor recreation and natural resource conservation opportunities. We help local leaders plan and design trails and parks; conserve and improve access to natural areas; protect special places; and create recreation opportunities.

The RTCA program in Nebraska offers a wide range of services that can be tailored to meet the needs of an individual project. The NPS staff members are trained facilitators who encourage project leaders to build collaborative partnerships among governmental and non-governmental stakeholders. The program helps communities and groups define their vision, goals, and objectives; analyze issues and opportunities; and develop strategic action plans and time lines for projects. We do not provide financial assistance, but can help project partners identify and secure sources of funding and technical support.

Any community with committed project partners can apply for assistance. Believing the best plans are completed locally, the National Park Service will work with partners to encourage broad-based community participation in planning, designing, and implementing the projects we support.

In 2016, the National Park Service in Nebraska will work on a variety of projects including:

Implementation of River Recreation Master Plan – The Project Goal is to implement a River Recreation Master Plan involving the development of a water trail for the Lower Platte River. (Location: Columbus to Plattsmouth, Nebraska)



Group of kayakers getting ready to enter the Lower Platte River

Recent Success Story

Adams Park Farms to Omaha Project – Adams Park is a city owned park located in the community of North Omaha, Nebraska. It is located in a low income area that is a food desert. Adams Park was a neglected park. The city of Omaha in cooperation with other community organizations decided to develop the park and its wetlands as an outdoor education area and developing the Wetland Learning Center. In addition, the city has added aquaponics to their Community Center and will be adding an Urban Gardening Center to help the locals grow their own produce.

For more information about the RTCA program refer to: www.nps.gov/rtca, or for information about ongoing or potential RTCA projects in Nebraska contact:

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